

Regional Administrator's Action Plan

"Environmental stewardship and economic growth work hand in hand, and it is our responsibility to continue to progress on this critically important path." -- Alan J. Steinberg, Regional Administrator

Environmental stewardship in the 21st Century



Looking ahead 300 days

Our mission statement is clear and to the point – to protect human health and the environment. But today, the environmental problems we face are more difficult to define and harder to solve than they were 35 years ago. We must set the right goals to carry out our mission; we must acquire the best available scientific and economic information; and, we must take the most creative approach to implementing our plan and carrying out our mission. Our work in the next 300 days will go a long way toward determining the success of our efforts.

Clean the air

- ▶ Reduce diesel emissions with voluntary programs to supplement national standards
- ▶ Reduce air toxic emissions from refineries, secondary aluminum smelters and landfills
- ▶ Work with states to develop implementation plans for meeting ozone and particulate air quality standards

Restore and protect the water

- ▶ Reduce pollution discharges resulting from wet weather
- ▶ Ensure that drinking water quality and wastewater discharges in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands meet Federal and Commonwealth requirements
- ▶ Address thermal pollution in Puerto Rico
- ▶ Improve watershed management
- ▶ Ensure the continued high quality of New York City's water supply
- ▶ Manage contaminated sediments to reduce risk

Recycle and renew polluted land

- ▶ Encourage reduction, recovery and recycling of solid waste
- ▶ Complete clean up of hazardous waste sites
- ▶ Advance the Navy's clean-up efforts at Vieques
- ▶ Work with municipalities to encourage the reuse and redevelopment of the Region's Brownfield sites

Make compliance our enforcement objective

- ▶ Apply consistent and certain enforcement to sustain compliance
- ▶ Make enforcement decisions focusing on desired environmental benefits
- ▶ Work with states in assessing financial assurance
- ▶ Provide increased compliance assistance to the private sector

Develop EPA's collaborative networks for environmental stewardship and problem-solving

- ▶ Enhance collaborations and partnerships with states and tribes
- ▶ Assess regional science needs to establish science priorities
- ▶ Promote voluntary conservation programs

Enhance communication throughout the Region

- ▶ Enhance and refine the regional Web site to make it a more useful education and outreach resource
- ▶ Expand community outreach efforts
- ▶ Use creative tools to reach diverse communities through the media

Help protect the security of America

- ▶ Enhance laboratory capacity to respond to emergencies
- ▶ Enhance readiness to respond to significant incidents
- ▶ Reduce risks to drinking water systems in Region 2
- ▶ Continuously improve the Region's continuity of operations plans

Manage resources wisely

- ▶ Work to ensure an efficient as well as effective grants management program
- ▶ Manage the ongoing organizational change effort to realize the goal of completing outstanding action items within the next year
- ▶ Implement the Region's Human Capital Plan to align our workforce to address the Region's priorities and ensure we maintain a talented and diverse workforce
- ▶ Implement our environmental management systems
- ▶ Implement the President's Management Agenda

Improve the health of our Region's children

- ▶ Reduce indoor air pollution to reduce asthma
- ▶ Focus on environmental quality in schools by reducing exposure to lead and asbestos